travel p.26

metro®
Wednesday, May 21, 2008 metronews.ca Vancouver

'mutt' a dog?
Sources are saying Shania's hubby of 14 years cheated
celeb buzz p.30

perky astra
Saturn's Belgian-made little road-runner
automotive p.21

Please recycle

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

Former owner of the Vancouver Canucks, Arthur Griffiths, at English Bay yesterday. The father of five said he wants to be the Liberal candidate in the newly formed provincial riding of Vancouver-West End. Incumbent Lorne Mayencourt has said he will not seek re-election.

And, the fight is on...

Contenders enter the field for West-End seat

By **JEFF HODSON**
Metro Vancouver

The opening salvos were fired yesterday in the battle for the new provincial riding of Vancouver West-End.

Arthur Griffiths, 51, former owner of the Vancouver Canucks and Grizzlies, announced yesterday morning that he would seek the B.C. Liberal nomination in the riding for the May 2009 provincial election.

Hours later, COPE Park Commissioner Spencer Herbert, 27, announced he was seeking the NDP nomination in the same riding.

"Isn't that coincidental?" said Griffiths after Herbert's announcement yesterday afternoon.

"It's pretty hilarious. Bring it on. I welcome competition in all walks of my life and I love a debate."

Griffiths said he's toyed with the idea of running for politics for a number of years and said provincial politics is the best vehicle to affect change.

Herbert, who was elected to the Vancouver Parks Board in 2005, said he was inspired to run after he took part in March's homeless count and came across several people who had been evicted from apartments in the area.

"I'm not a multimillionaire," said Herbert, who rents in the West End and pointed out that Griffiths lives in Point Grey. "I'm somebody who faces the same challenges as the average person in the West End."

Both candidates identified homelessness and affordable housing as key issues in the riding.

Griffiths, who has lived in the West End in the past and who plans to relocate to the area, also listed mental health and the safety of seniors as concerns. Herbert's press release identified four priorities including keeping St. Paul's Hospital open in the West End.

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

Park Commissioner Spencer Herbert seeks the NDP candidacy.

The riding was created after an electoral boundary commission recommended splitting the existing riding of Vancouver-Burrard into Vancouver West-End and Vancouver-False Creek.

Lorne Mayencourt, the Liberal MLA of Vancouver-Burrard who is not seeking re-election, lent his support to Griffiths at a press conference. Griffiths said he wasn't courted, but had spoken with Premier Gordon Campbell and Tourism Minister Stan Hagan.

At his press conference, Herbert was joined by Coun. Tim Stevenson, who held the riding from 1996 to 2001, and Constance Barnes, daughter of the late Emery Barnes who held the seat before Stevenson.

– jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

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local

The B.C. government's efforts to recover the Mountain Caribou, left, are being questioned by 10 environmental groups. Six months after the province announced the animals would be protected, there has been no progress in moving animals from stronger herds to weaker ones or to legally protect habitat. METRO VANCOUVER

3 charged in stabbing

By **JEFF HODSON**
Metro Vancouver

Three men were charged yesterday following a weekend stabbing at Cultus Lake outside Chilliwack that left one man dead and two others injured.

Adam Derek Phillips, 18, and Justin Wayne Lennard, 19, of Chilliwack were both charged with second-degree murder in the stabbing death of 19-year-old Cody Gottschalk of Richmond at the Sunnyside Campground Saturday night. The pair, along with Nathan John Simmons, 22, of Chilliwack, are also charged with aggravated assault and causing bodily harm. A fight between two groups of men broke out at the campground at 11:10 p.m. When RCMP arrived, they found three people stabbed. Gottschalk was pronounced dead at hospital.

The three stabbing victims did not know their alleged attackers.

–jeff.hodson@metronews.ca

Herbalists wary of Bill C-51

Health food rep speaks out against Food and Drugs Act

By **KRISTEN THOMPSON**
Metro Vancouver

Vancouver herbalists and naturalists are worried that a proposed legislation demanding more transparency and scrutiny of drugs and natural-health products will put them out of business.

Bill C-51 would amend the federal Food And Drugs Act by ensuring food, drug and health products don't make false or exaggerated health claims and disclose all ingredients on labels.

It would give the government more power to recall products and impose stricter fines for violations.

Critics, including Vancouver nutritionist Joan Loy, argue that health products shouldn't face the same stringent approval process as synthetic drugs.

Loy, who works at the Jericho Pharmacy and Health Food Store, said the bill would hurt the health food industry and impedes the customers' right to choose.

"Half of (our) store (is) supplements and if some of them don't get approved we can't sell them ... I'd have nothing to work with."

She said lumping natural medicine with pharmaceutical drugs suggests a lack of research and understanding.

"You drink too much carrot juice and the most it can cause is diarrhea," she said. "This is Big Brother telling you (what to do)."

–kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

ANDREW KING/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Nutritionist Joan Loy at the Jericho Pharmacy and Health Food Store yesterday.

Attack

Man stable after shot in the head

TARGETED A 30-year-old Vancouver man suffered serious injuries after he was shot in the head early yesterday morning in a targeted attack, Vancouver police said.

Const. Tim Fanning said the man knocked on a number of doors after the shooting, which occurred just after midnight in the 2000 block of East 13th Avenue.

The man, who is known to police, did not co-operate with investigators. He was taken to hospital and is in stable condition.

JEFF HODSON/METRO VANCOUVER

»news In Brief

» **STORM** A lightning storm early yesterday morning knocked out power to more than 600 homes across Metro Vancouver, CBC News Online reports. The Surrey RCMP detachment was also caught in the blackout. Power was restored by noon.
METRO VANCOUVER

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The largest class of doctors in the province's history is graduating from the University of B.C. today. The 194 students are the first to earn their MDs as part of a $134 million expansion of UBC's faculty of medicine funded by the province.

METRO VANCOUVER

Here come the Leos

Awards celebrate province's film, television industry

By **ANDREW KING**
for Metro Vancouver

The red carpet is ready to be rolled out at the 10th annual Leo Awards this weekend to celebrate Vancouver's film and television industry.

Awards' president Walter Daroshin said that winning a Leo provides artists with a sense of self that creates confidence because "somebody other than you or your immediate family thinks that what you do is pretty good (and) I think that helps people."

A major benefit to winning a Leo is that it can provide local actors with an opportunity to work in Hollywood.

"One of the requirements for an actor to get a green card to work in the United States is that they have elevated their craft, and that's evidenced by awards," said Daroshin.

tickets

» The Leo Awards were established in 1998 to celebrate excellence in British Columbia film and television. For tickets or more information, visit *leoawards.com*.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID PAPERNY

Director David Paperny at the helm of his Leo-nominated documentary, Confessions of an Innocent Man.

For David Paperny, local filmmaker and president of Paperny Films, the Leos are a great venue for colleagues to meet, and recognize the creative work that so many pour into the film and television community.

"It's a great way to continue the networking that's so important for our industry to survive," said Paperny, whose latest feature documentary, Confessions of an Innocent Man, is among four of his productions up for awards.

"There is a real value in these nominations," he said. "It is important recognition for those of us who are nominated of the work that we're doing."

Man saves girl from drowning

By **ANDREW KING**
for Metro Vancouver

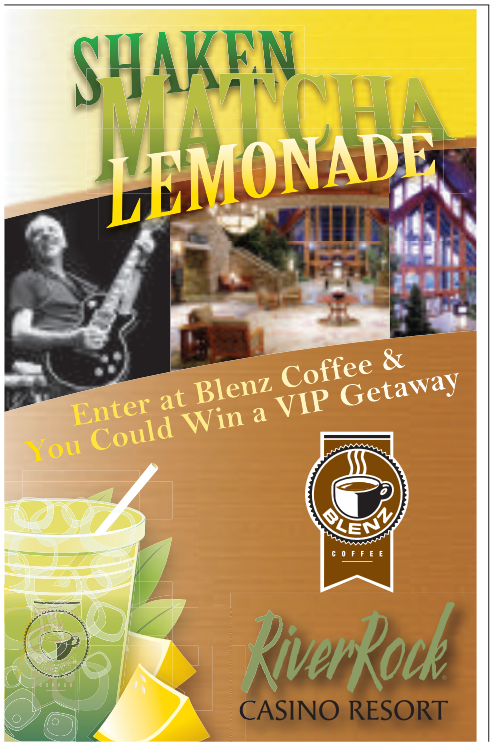
An eight-year-old Maple Ridge girl is alive after a man saved her from drowning in the South Alouette River.

Ridge Meadows RCMP are applauding the actions of the 37-year-old from Coquitlam for quickly jumping into a river after seeing the girl floating face down. The man just happened to be in the neighbourhood at the time.

> « *The quick actions by the citizen definitely saved this young life.* »
> *Insp. Jim Wakely*

"The quick actions by the citizen definitely saved this young life," said Insp. Jim Wakely of Ridge Meadows RCMP. "This individual saw the threat and knew time was of the essence. We applaud his courageous actions in this matter."

The girl, who was playing in the river near her home on Fern Crescent, was unconscious but appeared to be breathing when B.C. Ambulance Service and RCMP arrived on the scene.



planning

Emergency plans offered by city

SESSIONS The City of Vancouver offered free sessions to help residents plan for emergencies at the Roundhouse Community Centre last night, news1130.com reports. The sessions included personal and family preparedness lessons, developing a family emergency plan performing a "home hazard hunt."

immigration

Finley's arrival not quite there

PROTEST More than 50 people gathered at a Surrey hotel yesterday to protest the arrival of Immigration Minister Diane Finley, who ended up cancelling her appearance. She was expected to promote Bill C-50.

»news

In Brief

» **TASERS** Research suggests Tasers can cause cardiac arrest, two heart specialists told an inquiry in Vancouver yesterday. "There should be a realization that the potential for sudden death does exist," Dr. Charles Kerr, a cardiologist at St. Paul's Hospital, told the inquiry. While the Taser itself might not kill directly, Kerr said, the stress of being jolted with the weapon could. Dr. Michael Janusz, a heart surgeon in Vancouver who also testified at the inquiry, agreed with Kerr's findings. Both doctors are calling for new policy regarding first aid and CPR for police should a suspect collapse after a Taser is used.

» **FIRE** A fire was lit on a coach bus at the Greyhound bus terminal in Pemberton. The fire was put out before it could cause too much damage to the vehicle, RCMP said. Police don't have a suspect.

» **ARRESTS** Police have arrested five Lower Mainland men in their 40s and seized three rifles in connection with a shooting that hurt two men near Boston Bar. RCMP said the men were camping nearby and were carelessly shooting guns.

» **SEARCH** RCMP in Slocan Lake stopped searching for a 53-year-old man missing and feared buried in a mudslide, *cknw.com* reports. Rescue crews suspended efforts to find Bernhard Eigelshoven on a recommendation from the Ministry of Transportation because of concerns over the crew's safety due to unstable conditions.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

KRISTEN THOMPSON/METRO VANCOUVER

Competitive "speed cuber" Hong Chen shows off his collection of Rubik's Cubes — he has 27 — at his Burnaby home.

Uber 'cuber'

Top Rubik's Cube competitor plans Burnaby event

By **KRISTEN THOMPSON**
Metro Vancouver

Solving a Rubik's Cube likely seems like a frustrating and daunting feat to most people. Solving it blindfolded, an impossibility.

But Burnaby software engineer Hong Chen only practised blindfolded for a month before competing in an international cubing competition in Toronto last year.

He took home third prize for finishing the puzzle in 3:08.

"This year I'm targeting less than two minutes," he said.

Chen became an avid "cuber" in 1980.

"(I thought) if someone else can do it, I can do it. I played eight hours a day. I wanted to solve it faster and faster."

He also placed in the top four in a competition in Sweden.

"It's not for the money," he said, adding he only won $300 in Toronto. "It's all about your record being recognized in the World Cube Association database."

> « *It's not for the money. It's all about your record being recognized in the World Cube Association database.* »
> *'Cuber' Hong Chen*

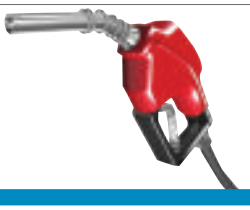
Chen is organizing the Vancouver Open Summer 2008 Rubik's Cube Competition, which will be held June 14 in Burnaby.

"So far we have 20 people signed up," he said.

"I know a lot of people who play it and they might not be as good but they'd like to see others."

Tourism Vancouver's CEO is blaming high gas prices for the 13 per cent decline in the number of American tourists to B.C. last year. Rick Antonson said that on the upside, visitors from Mexico are up 22 per cent and up 18 per cent from China.

METRO VANCOUVER



H&M opens megastore

Downtown location to be largest of chain in Canada

By **KRISTEN THOMPSON**
Metro Vancouver

Tomorrow Vancouver will become home to the biggest H&M store in Canada.

The long-awaited downtown launch of the popular Swedish brand, which is likened to the Ikea of clothing stores, is expected to draw thousands of shoppers when doors open at Pacific Centre at noon.

When H&M opened its first British Columbia store at Coquitlam Centre last summer it attracted 800 shoppers in the first hour.

Tomorrow's opening is expected to draw similar crowds.

recent shop

» H&M recently opened a shop at Lougheed Town Centre.

Laura Shankland, with H&M Canada, said the 28,000-square-foot, two-storey shop is like a mini department store and because it's so affordable it's "guiltless shopping."

"The summer's all about exotic, tropical prints, bright colours inspired by Africa and Hawaii. Ethnic jewelry, lots of bangles and embellishments."

Shankland said the Vancouver store will be unlike other H&Ms because it will offer the highest level of fashion content for adults, which is "more suitable to big city, downtown stores."

-kristen.thompson@metronews.ca

RAFE ARNOTT/METRO VANCOUVER

Workers discuss last-minute details as they prepare the new H&M flagship store at Pacific Centre for its grand opening tomorrow.

richmond

Donation boxes to help quake victims

CHINA As an effort to raise funds for the earthquake victims in China, donation boxes have been setup all around Richmond.

The Richmond Mandarin Lions Clubs initiated the idea to distribute the boxes and has announced the funds collected will be for the displaced residents of Sichuan. The boxes will also provide Richmond residents looking to make a difference a convenient way to help. Community centres, fire stations, City Hall and Watermania are among the 20 locations where the donation boxes will be setup.

In addition, volunteers from the Richmond Mandarin Lions Club will also be walking through the city, restaurants and businesses to collect donations.

DONNA NG/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Laughing in spite of cancer

By **JEFF HODSON**
Metro Vancouver

Even for a stand-up comedian, cancer is no laughing matter.

Barker

But next month, on the one-year anniversary of when doctors told him he only had a year to live, comic Irwin Barker is hosting a night of stand-up comedy at the River Rock Casino.

"I didn't want to be insensitive to cancer or trivialize it by making fun of it," said Barker, a writer with the CBC's Rick Mercer Report, who was diagnosed last June with terminal cancer leiomyosarcoma.

"I'm doing comedy in spite of it," said Barker, who credits chemotherapy for keeping the cancer at bay. "I'm not trying to make fun of cancer, because that's a pretty difficult thing to do."

Barker, a comedian for the past 20 years, was a writer for This Hour Has 22 Minutes and is a regular on CBC radio's The Debaters. He will be joined in the June 13 show by comedians Shaun Majumder, Mike Bullard, Mark Critch and Peter Kelamis. The show will be taped for broadcast on The Comedy Network.

"I'm just not letting it drain my spirit. The cancer is in my body. It's not in my spirit."

tickets

» Tickets for the June 13 Irwin Barker and Friends: Fighting Cancer with Comedy are available at Ticketmaster or the River Rock box office, 604-247-8562.

» Net proceeds go to the Canadian Cancer Society.

»news

In Brief

» **STRUCK** A four-year-old girl struck by a car in Ladner has succumbed to her injuries and died. The incident occurred Saturday while she was with a relative looking at horses, news1130.com reports. The other woman is recovering in the hospital.

» **FUNDING** Parents at Lord Nelson Elementary in East Vancouver spoke against the lottery system that picks which schools receive funding, news1130.com reports. Parents want the school's playground renovated, which will cost $25,000. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Market hearing packed

It was a full house at a public hearing last night into whether the Richmond Night Market would be granted a permit to open.

News1130.com reports that, after months of uncertainty, the City of Richmond gathered to discuss whether to issue a permit to operate the market.

Among councillors' concerns were garbage collection and traffic buildup.

The trade of counterfeit goods was also discussed at the hearing.

First-time operator Paul Cheung is facing multiple challenges, including repairing damage caused by vandals and renovating the spot where the 300 vendors are expected to set up. He is also being sued by the former operator for using the name Richmond Night Market.

"For the city itself, it brings a lot of tourists to the city, revenue and tax dollars," Cheung said.

DONNA NG/FOR METRO VANCOUVER

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Grow-op land forfeited

Province seizes pot bust property

By **ANDREW KING**
for Metro Vancouver

SUBMITTED

The forfeited Cedar Creek house where Williams Lake RCMP discovered 5,566 marijuana plants growing under high-intensity discharge lamps.

The site of B.C.'s largest marijuana grow-op ever subject to civil forfeiture action will be sold by the province, Solicitor General John van Dongen announced yesterday.

The Cedar Creek property, where more than 22,000 plants a year could have been produced, was discovered by Williams Lake RCMP in November 2006. Two people were arrested and charged at the time.

"Grow-ops and related organized crime present serious risks to public safety, and this latest, successful case shows the province and RCMP are serious about suppressing unlawful and harmful activity wherever it occurs," van Dongen said in a press release.

The solicitor general added that civil forfeiture has been successful in taking away the instruments used by criminals to make a profit.

"The shear size of the illegal activity we've seen in this case makes it the perfect candidate for what we designed civil forfeiture for."

Woman dies falling off cliff

By **DONNA NG**
for Metro Vancouver

A 34-year-old woman from Whistler has died after sliding off a 30-metre cliff known as the Pemberton Ice Cap, the RCMP announced yesterday.

At around 7 a.m. last Saturday, two women sitting on a blanket began to slip on the icy slope. One woman was able to stop herself from sliding but the other fell over the cliff.

Nearby snowmobilers performed CPR but were unable to revive the woman. Her name has not been released.

»news In Brief

» **POLICE** West Vancouver police chief Kash Heed said one Metro Vancouver police force would be a more effective use of resources, cknw.com reports. Heed said rather than having several urban police departments, the RCMP and transit police, they should combine forces.

» **POLITICS** A former 13-year veteran of Surrey city council who is in rehab for cocaine addiction wants to run for office again, news1130.com reports. Gary Robinson does not have the support of the party he is vice-president of, the Surrey Civic Coalition.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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letters

Bottled water offers balance

Re: "Don't take water for granted." The Canadian Bottled Water Association would like to add some balance to last week's column (by David Suzuki).

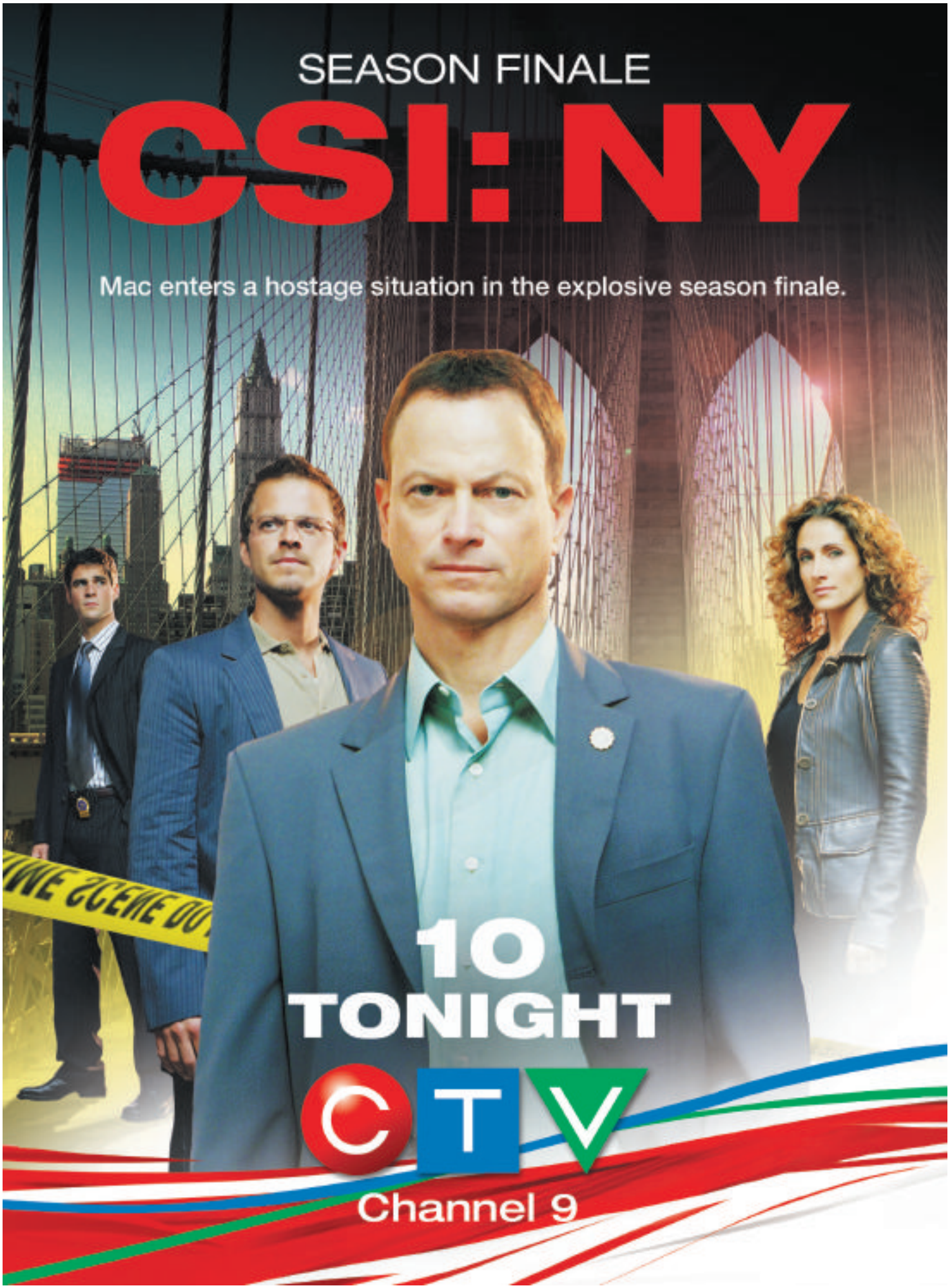
According to AC Nielsen, our customers typically purchase bottled water in cases of 24 single serve, 500ml bottles.

Bottled water critics routinely wrongly compare the price of a single-serve bottle versus a variety of unrelated products, such as a litre of gasoline.

Consumers should know that bisphenol A is not an ingredient used in making PET plastic, the main ingredient in the typical bottle of water about which the article is referring. Health Minister Tony Clement said himself that refillable 18 litre containers pose no health threat to Canadians. PET bottles are also 100 per cent recyclable and one of the most recycled products in Canada.

— ELIZABETH GRISWOLD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CANADIAN BOTTLED
WATER ASSOCIATION

E-mail your letters to letters@metronews.ca. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.


SEASON FINALE
CSI: NY
Mac enters a hostage situation in the explosive season finale.
10
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canada

State police commander Enrique Wuilar in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, said an American man who says he witnessed the shooting death of Burnaby native Bouabal Bounthavorn is being held. Wuilar said police are searching for a tall, dark-skinned thin man. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Canada slips in peace index

U.S. ranked among bottom third in global survey

new think-tank

» The index was launched under the auspices of the Institute for Economics and Peace, a new think-tank that looks at the relationship between economics, business and peace.

Iceland is the world's most peaceful nation while the United States is ranked among the bottom third, according to a study released yesterday.

The Global Peace Index, compiled by the Economist Intelligence Unit, ranked the United States 97th out of 140 countries according to how peaceful they were domestically and how they interacted with the outside world.

Canada was no longer in the top 10 most peaceful nations. Last year it ranked 8th and this year fell to 11th.

Iraq, which the United States invaded in 2003, leading to the toppling of Saddam Hussein, ranked lowest on the index. Afghanistan, another country invaded by the United States this decade, was also in the bottom five, along with Sudan, Somalia and Israel.

Small, stable and democratic countries were found to be the most peaceful in the index, with 16 of the top 20 coming from western or central European democracies.

The index looks at 24 indicators of external and internal measures of peace, including UN deployments overseas and levels of violent crime, respect for human rights, the number of soldiers killed overseas and arms sales.

The Group of Eight major economic powers were a mixed bag. Japan ranked fifth, Canada 11th, Germany 14th, Italy 28th, France 36th and Britain 49th. Russia was near the bottom at 131st, the only one in the group lower than the United States.

REUTERS — WITH FILES FROM METRO NEWS SERVICES

Calgary **children's festival**

ALICIA FOX /FOR METRO VANCOUVER

Sand Northrup, from One Woman Circus, entertained the kids at the Calgary International Children's Festival yesterday, sometimes including them in her routine and always making them laugh with her juggling antics.

politics

Withdraw changes, committee urges

IMMIGRATION A Commons committee is urging the government to withdraw immigration amendments in the budget bill that give Immigration Minister Diane Finley unprecedented discretionary powers.

Concerns raised include worries the changes would not address the backlog because they apply only to new applications. Also, the minister's discretionary power to prioritize and dispose of applications lacks transparency and creates uncertainty. The changes could also favour skilled immigrants at the expense of family-class and humanitarian applications.

Conservative members of the committee said the amendments are necessary to fix "Canada's broken and overloaded" immigration system. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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The Beasley: modern & stylish interiors

By Andrew King

Yaletown is home to lavish lifestyles, chic restaurants and boutiques, and especially, modern design, just the way Larry Beasley, Vancouver's former city planner, intended it to be. Now people have the opportunity to experience the pleasures of the city's greatest neighbourhood by owning a residence that not only carries the Beasley name, but also his vision.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY FCDG + COLOR SPACE

Amacon Development's latest project, The Beasley, has been designed with the needs of its residents in mind by providing people with interiors that are as modern and stylish as the building's exterior, but that also allow people to live without sacrificing the comforts of a house.

"People like the architecture of the building, they like the glass," said sales associate Judy Graham.

Each of the building's 211 residences has been designed with the latest urban contemporary look and feel, all with engineered flooring in the living area, heated tile floors in the bathrooms and carpeted bedrooms. With a focus on natural light, floor-to-ceiling-windows will be prominent, giving the interiors a spacious feel and providing the upper floors with a clear North Shore mountain view, a feature that has some referring to The Beasley as the *Glass Tower*.

With prices starting at $400,000, residences begin on the fifth floor and range in size from 550 sq ft for a one bedroom to 980 sq ft for a two bedroom with den. With some of the most incredible views in the city, the penthouse suites, of 854 sq feet up to 1334 sq ft, are planned for floors 31-34.

With a modern lifestyle in mind, designers have made each unit feel much larger than the square footage might indicate by creating open concept living areas that are perfect for every occasion, from entertaining friends, working from home, to kicking back and enjoying some quiet time.

"We've had a lot of feedback on how spacious the display units look," said Graham, who added that the larger two bedroom suites are perfect for young families. With the bedrooms located on opposite sides of each residence, there is plenty of space that allows for privacy and a quiet night's sleep.

Most suites have been designed to include balconies with enough room for a table and chairs, and maybe even a barbeque, allowing residents to expand their living area during the hot summer months and soak up the intoxicating Yaletown energy and ambience.

For those who like a little culinary extravagance, the kitchen package comes standard with full-size stainless steel KitchenAid Architect Series II appliances with a bottom mount freezer, Ceran cooktop range with hood fan, stainless under-counter microwave oven and a wine storage rack. An upgrade will include a wine cooler, perfect for wine lovers. Also included in the package is a washer/dryer.

"Having the full size appliances is really nice," said Graham.

The 34 storey tower is slated for completion in early 2011.

For more information, contact Judy Graham 604-669-7343 or visit thebeasley.com.

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world

The Wall Street Burger Shoppe has regained its title for New York's costliest burger. For just $175, diners can chow down on a Kobe beef patty with black truffles, seared foie gras, aged Gruyere cheese, wild mushrooms and flecks of gold leaf on a brioche bun. REUTERS

Quake toll tops 40,000

Another 32,000 still missing after China disaster

China raised the number of dead or missing from a devastating earthquake to more than 70,000 yesterday, as rescuers found more survivors eight days after the huge tremor hit.

A government statement said the number killed had now topped 40,000, and state news agency Xinhua reported that a further 32,000 were missing.

Authorities had previously said they expected the final death toll to exceed 50,000. More than 247,000 were injured.

Anger was building among bereaved parents in Sichuan over the way many school buildings had collapsed, burying whole classrooms full of children. In one town, in a rare public protest, hundreds demanded punishment for anyone guilty of shoddy construction.

Xinhua reported a 60-year-old woman was rescued in Pengzhou, more than 196 hours after the May 12 quake struck. It said she had survived on rainwater.

In Wenchuan county, epicentre of the quake in mountainous Sichuan province, Ma Yuanjiang, 31, was found alive. His body was "as fragile as that of a newborn baby," Chongqing Xinqiao hospital president Wang Weidong said, according to Xinhua.

> *« I survived purely on my will … I have a 60-year-old mother, a wife and two young children. »*
>
> *Quake survivor Li Tenqchang*

Rescuers also pulled about 10 people off a mountain near Shifang town where they had been building an electricity generation station when the quake struck.

Li Tengchang, 38, said 40 of his colleagues had been killed by falling boulders, and that others were still alive on the mountain.

"When the wait wore on, we thought no one would come save us and we would probably die," said Li, who was being treated for kidney damage. "I survived purely on my will. I told myself I had to live and I had to survive. I have a 60-year-old mother, a wife and two young children."

Meanwhile, nearly 9,000 people were evacuated from the base of Shiziliang Mountain near Guangyuan city over concerns about huge cracks on its slopes. And Beichuan, one of the worst-hit towns, was closed off after official warnings of fresh tremors. REUTERS

RED CROSS/RED CRESCENT HANDOUT/REUTERS

Red Cross workers distribute relief supplies and provide assistance to cyclone-affected villagers in Bogale in the Irrawaddy Delta in this undated handout picture released yesterday.

Myanmar allows helicopter access

Food program granted permission to fly in supplies

Myanmar's junta has given the World Food Program permission to use helicopters to send aid to cyclone survivors, the United Nations said yesterday, as flags flew at half-staff across the country to mourn the dead.

The first day of a three-day mourning period passed in torrential rain and diplomatic prodding of the reclusive generals to allow more international aid after Cyclone Nargis hit in early May, leaving 134,000 people dead or missing.

The junta in the former Burma has allowed relief flights to deliver supplies to Yangon, the largest city, but had balked at aerial access to the southwestern Irrawaddy Delta, where an estimated 2.4 million people were left destitute.

"We have received government permission to operate nine WFP helicopters, which will allow us to reach areas that have so far been largely inaccessible," U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon told reporters before departing for a visit to Myanmar.

Amid warnings that many more people could die in the Southeast Asian country, Ban said he welcomed the government's "recent flexibility," but added that aid workers had so far been able to reach only around 25 percent of those in need. REUTERS

Nargis numbers

» The official numbers are 77,738 people dead and 55,917 missing, making Nargis one of the worst cyclones to hit Asia in decades. Myanmar's government has estimated the damage at $10 billion US.

Japan **Beauty bath**

YURIKO NAKAO/REUTERS

Kazuhiro Aoki, puts his face in an aquarium as Garra rufa, a fish used for skin treatment, nibbles his skin at the Beautyworld Japan trade fair in Tokyo yesterday. Over 600 exhibitors took part in Japan's largest beauty trade fair which ends today.

USA

Obama controls pledged delegates

Obama

POLITICS Democrat Barack Obama came close to declaring victory in the race for his party's presidential nomination yesterday, looking to November while thanking the state that launched his underdog White House bid.

Despite a loss to rival Hilary Clinton in Kentucky, Obama picked up enough delegates in the loss, combined with a victory in Oregon, to secure a majority of the delegates elected in state nominating contests. REUTERS

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Troops to stay as long as needed: Afghan minister

The Afghan government will decide when foreign troops will leave the country, the foreign minister said yesterday, but added they would be needed until Afghan security forces could stand on their own feet.

"Whenever … the Afghan security forces and its national army acquire the ability to defend this water and soil against international terrorism and foreign interventions, there will be no need for the presence of international military forces in Afghanistan," Foreign Minister Rangeen Dadfar Spanta told a news conference.

"And the government of Afghanistan itself will specify as to when and who needs to be (here) or go," Spanta replied when asked by a reporter whether the government had set any time frame for the withdrawal of foreign troops. REUTERS

foreign forces

» 60,000 foreign troops are currently deployed in Afghanistan, including roughly 2,500 Canadian soldiers.

»news In Brief

» **SURVEILLANCE** Britain is considering a massive government database to store the e-mails, Internet information, phone-calls and text messages of all residents to help security forces in the fight against crime and terrorism. At the moment, records of phone-calls and text messages are kept up to 12 months by telecom companies, in compliance with an EU anti-terrorism directive.

» **IRAQ** U.S. President George W. Bush has apologized to Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki and promised prosecution of a U.S. soldier accused of using a copy of the Koran for target practice, Iraq said yesterday. REUTERS

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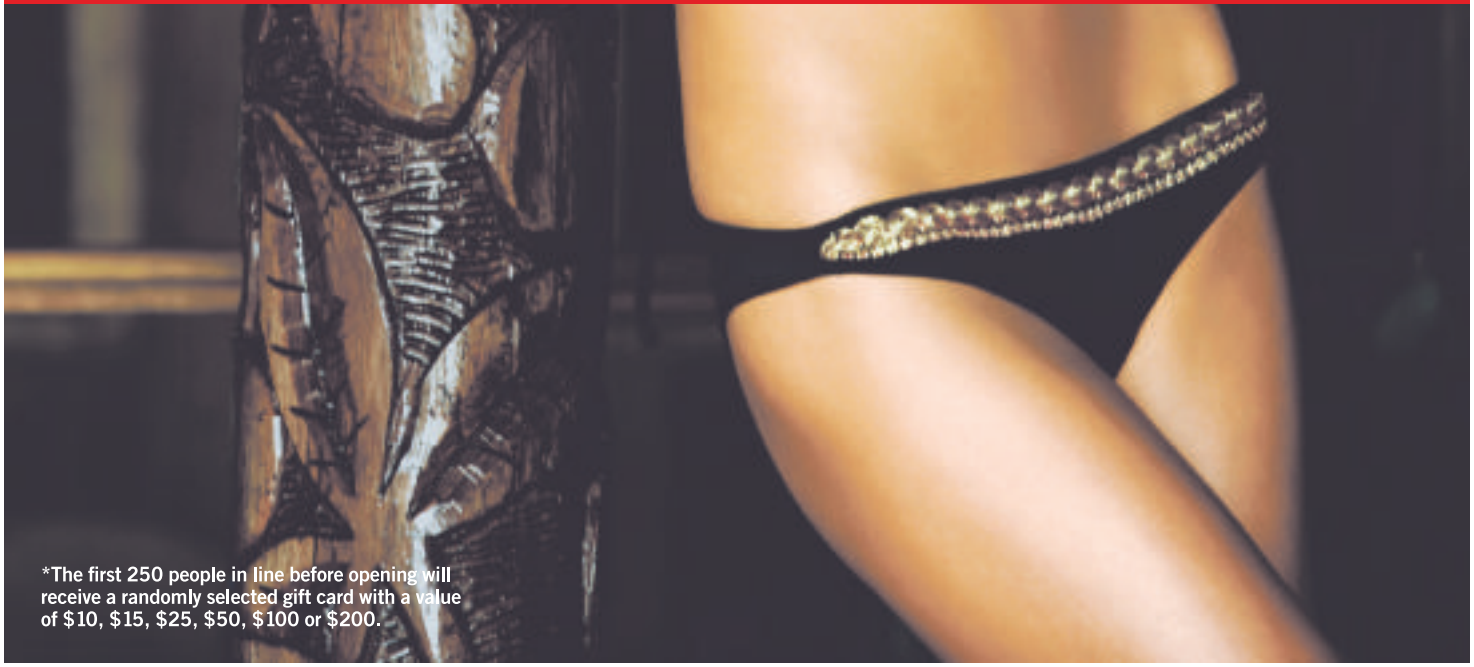

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business

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The U.S. Treasury Dept. discriminates against blind or poorly visioned Americans by printing paper money that makes it impossible for them to distinguish denominations, a federal appeals court ruled. REUTERS

Bombardier awarded $1.2B VistaJet order

35 planes OK'd with option for 25 more aircraft

Bombardier Inc., the world's third-largest civil aircraft maker, said yesterday it has won an order for business aircraft worth up to $1.2 billion US from Switzerland's VistaJet.

The order, which was announced at an air show in Geneva, is for 35 firm orders with options for an additional 25 aircraft, the Canadian aerospace company said.

If all options are exercised, the total value of the order will be about $1.2 billion, Bombardier said.

As well, Bombardier said it will sell its charter unit Bombardier Skyjet International to VistaJet. The company said it has signed a memorandum of understanding. REUTERS

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crude

U.S. House passes bill to sue OPEC

LEGISLATION The U.S. House overwhelmingly approved legislation yesterday allowing the Justice Department to sue OPEC members for limiting oil supplies and working together to set crude prices, but the White House threatened to veto the measure. REUTERS

»news In Brief

» **OIL** Crude oil prices scaled a new peak near $130 US a barrel yesterday amid deepening worries over tight global stockpiles and signals from OPEC that no additional supplies are forthcoming to ease the crunch.

» **RETAIL** Home Depot Inc. reported a 66 per cent drop in first-quarter profit as the U.S. housing meltdown hurt sales and it took a charge to close stores and curb expansion plans. The world's biggest home improvement retailer said its full-year per-share profit could fall as much as 24 per cent.

» **TRANSPORT** Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin pledged nearly $550 billion US to modernize Russia's creaking transport system by 2015 REUTERS

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sports

Five-time Canadian ice dance champions Marie-France Dubreuil and Patrice Lauzon, left, announced their retirement from competitive skating yesterday ahead of their upcoming wedding this summer. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celtics continue home cooking

Garnett sets pace in Game 1 victory

CELTICS 88 PISTONS 79

Kevin Garnett scored 26 points and Paul Pierce added 22 as the Celtics beat Detroit 88-79 in the opener of the Eastern Conference finals.

Having been pushed to seven games in each of the first two rounds, by Atlanta and Cleveland respectively, the Celtics remained unbeaten on their home floor in the postseason after nine contests.

Rajon Rondo had 11 points and seven assists for Boston, which is trying to advance to the NBA Finals for the first time since 1987.

Garnett had eight of his points during a big run in the third quarter, and finished with nine rebounds while shooting 11-of-17 from the field.

Tayshaun Prince scored 16 points and Richard Hamilton had 15 for the Pistons, who are into the East finals for a sixth-straight year. Antonio McDyess tallied 14 points and 11 rebounds for Detroit, while Rasheed Wallace scored 11.

Chauncey Billups, who missed the final two games of Detroit's second-round playoff series with Orlando due to a strained right hamstring, was limited to nine points.

Game 2 of the best-of-seven series is scheduled for tomorrow night, again at TD Banknorth Garden.

The Pistons hadn't played since finishing off the Magic in five games last Tuesday, while Boston was playing its second contest in three days.

"We just came out with extra focus and extra energy at the start of the game because we knew they would try to come out and get the first game," Pierce said. "That's what teams usually try to do versus a tired team."

Hamilton's jumper represented the first points of the third quarter, putting the Pistons ahead 42-41, but Boston answered with a 14-4 burst.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

ADAM HUNGER/REUTERS

Detroit Pistons guard Richard Hamilton has his headband pulled down over his eyes as he drives to the hoop on Celtics' James Posey, left, and P.J. Brown last night during Game 1 of the NBA Eastern Conference final in Boston.

Bulls defy odds to win draft lottery

The Chicago Bulls won the lottery held last night, and will get the first pick in next month's NBA Draft.

Beasley

The Bulls, who had only a 1.7 per cent chance of winning the right to pick first after posting a 33-49 regular season record, will select ahead of the Miami Heat.

The Heat, who at 15-67 owned the NBA's worst record, had a 25 per cent chance among the 14 eligible teams to get first pick, but were drawn to go second.

This year's draft features forward Michael Beasley of Kansas State and University of Memphis point guard Derrick Rose as the likely top two selections. REUTERS

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SCOREBOARD

NHL

STANLEY CUP FINAL
PITTSBURGH VS. DETROIT
Game 1 — Saturday
Pittsburgh at Detroit, 6
Game 2 — Monday
Pittsburgh at Detroit, 6
Game 3 — Wednesday, May 28
Detroit at Pittsburgh, 6
Game 4 — Saturday, May 31
Detroit at Pittsburgh, 6
*Game 5 — Monday, June 2
Pittsburgh at Detroit, 6
*Game 6 — Wednesday, June 4
Detroit at Pittsburgh, 6
*Game 7 — Saturday, June 7
Pittsburgh at Detroit, 6
(* – if necessary)

NBA

CONFERENCE FINALS
WESTERN CONFERENCE
L.A. LAKERS VS. SAN ANTONIO
Game 1 — Tonight
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers, 7
Game 2 — Friday
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers, 7
Game 3 — Sunday
L.A. Lakers at San Antonio, 7:30
Game 4 — Tuesday, May 27
L.A. Lakers at San Antonio, 7
*Game 5 — Thursday, May 29
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers, 7
*Game 6 — Saturday, May 31
L.A. Lakers at San Antonio, 7:30
*Game 7 — Monday, June 2
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers, 7

EASTERN CONFERENCE
BOSTON VS. DETROIT
Game 1 — Last night
Boston 88 Detroit 79
Game 2 — Tomorrow
Detroit at Boston, 6:30
Game 3 — Saturday
Boston at Detroit, 6:30
Game 4 — Monday
Boston at Detroit, 6:30
*Game 5 — Wednesday, May 28
Detroit at Boston, 6:30
*Game 6 — Friday, May 30
Boston at Detroit, 6:30
*Game 7 — Sunday, June 1
Detroit at Boston, 6:30
(Boston leads series 1-0)
(* – if necessary)

MLB

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Baltimore 12 N.Y. Yankees 2
Boston 2 Kansas City 1
Detroit 12 Seattle 8
L.A. Angels 3 Toronto 1
Minnesota 11 Texas 4
Chicago W. Sox 4 Cleveland 1
Tampa Bay 3 Oakland 2
NATIONAL LEAGUE
Atlanta 6 N.Y. Mets 1 (Gm 1)
Florida 4 Arizona 3
Houston 4 Chicago Cubs 2
Milwaukee 7 Pittsburgh 2
Philadelphia 1 Washington 0
Atlanta 6 N.Y. Mets 2 (Gm 2)
San Francisco 6 Colorado 5
San Diego 3 St. Louis 2
L.A. Dodgers 4 Cincinnati 1
TODAY'S GAMES
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Tampa Bay at Oakland, 1:35
Seattle at Detroit, 5:05
Kansas City at Boston, 5:05
Baltimore at N.Y. Yankees, 5:05
L.A. Angels at Toronto, 5:07
Texas at Minnesota, 6:10
Cleveland at Chicago W. Sox, 6:11
NATIONAL LEAGUE
San Francisco at Colorado, 1:05
Milwaukee at Pittsburgh, 5:05
N.Y. Mets at Atlanta, 5:10
Arizona at Florida, 5:10
Philadelphia at Washington, 5:10
Chicago Cubs at Houston, 6:05
St. Louis at San Diego, 8:05
Cincinnati at L.A. Dodgers, 8:10

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SEMIFINAL
Friday
Kitchener vs. Belleville, 5
FINAL
Sunday
Spokane vs. semifinal winner, 5

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Piazza puts end to stellar MLB career

Catcher went from 62nd-round draft pick to superstar

Mike Piazza, regarded as the best-hitting catcher in baseball history, reportedly announced his retirement yesterday.

Piazza's agent Dan Lozano released a statement, which was published on the website of the New York Daily News.

"I have come to the decision to officially retire from Major League Baseball," said the statement on the Daily News website. "At this point in my career and after discussing my options with my wife, family and agent, I felt it is time to start a new chapter in my life."

The 39-year-old backstop batted .275 with eight home runs and 44 runs batted as a designated hitter last season in 83 games for the Oakland Athletics. He was a free agent in the offseason, but did not sign anywhere.

The 12-time All-Star catcher, who earned 10-straight selections to the Mid-summer Classic from 1993 to 2002, belted 427 career home runs, 396 as a catcher, the most by a backstop in MLB history.

Piazza finished with stellar career numbers that include a .308 batting average and 1,355 RBI over 16 seasons with the Los Angeles Dodgers, Florida Marlins, New York Mets, San Diego Padres, and Athletics. Not too bad for a catcher who was merely an afterthought for the Dodgers when they picked him in the 62nd round of the amateur draft in 1988.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

USA BLUMENFELD/GETTY IMAGES

12-time All-Star catcher Mike Piazza retired from baseball yesterday. Piazza leaves the game with the most home runs yet hit by a catcher in Major League Baseball history.

»sports In Brief

» **HOCKEY** The Gatineau Olympiques are headed home early from the Memorial Cup. The Quebec Major Junior Hockey League champs lost 3-1 to the Spokane Chiefs last night in Litchener, Ont., to fall to 0-3, eliminating them from playoff contention. The Western Hockey League champion Chiefs (3-0) have clinched top spot and a berth in Sunday's final, while the host Rangers and the Ontario Hockey League runner-up Belleville Bulls will meet in Friday's semifinal.

» **NFL** NFL owners voted unanimously yesterday to terminate their labour contract with the players union early. But the NFL said that despite its decision, football games would be played without the threat of interruption for at least the next three seasons, and it would continue to negotiate a new agreement to cover subsequent seasons.

» **NFL** The Dallas Cowboys locked up key components of their offence and defence yesterday, with cornerback Terence Newman agreeing to a six-year contract extension and running back Marion Barber inking a seven-year deal. Newman's deal is for $50.2 million, while Barber's deal is worth $45 million, according to the Dallas Morning News.

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Canada's Best Diversity Employers recognized Research-based pharmaceutical company Merck Frosst Canada as one of the best because it established a recruiting-for-diversity training component for all hiring managers. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Coping through the grapevine

Viticulturist gained strength while managing fields

In 2003, 43-year-old Paula Moulton's world was shattered when her husband of 19 years was killed in a car accident. Instead of falling to despair, however, Moulton decided to support her three kids and honour her husband's memory by forging ahead with her dreams.

The tragedy happened just three days before Moulton's first book — a collection of personal wisdom titled Seasons Among the Vines: Life Lessons from the California Wine Country — was about to be published.

Her husband had been an orthopaedic surgeon serving thousands of clients and teamed with Moulton's knowledge of grapes (she has a degree in viticulture as well as a writing degree) they had owned two-dozen acres of grapevines near San Francisco, selling grapes to several wineries in California's famous Sonoma wine region.

Overnight, Moulton had to take the financial reins — she sold all 24 acres of grapevines and began running the orthopaedic practice, hiring new doctors and keeping the office afloat, while the emotional wounds were still fresh.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Paula Moulton, who lost her husband, found peace in the vines after her tragedy.

> « *You do have the power to make decisions in your life. You don't have the power to change the past, or even what might happen to you today, but if you can just pull the positive things out of an experience, you can move on with your life. Take small steps. You don't have to take huge leaps.* »
>
> Paula Moulton

"I was mourning as I was going through it. It was like stepping into someone's shoes overnight. There was of course a lot of change, a lot of sorrow, a lot of pain," Moulton said.

She says fear of letting her kids down motivated her to keep going.

"I thought, 'I have to teach them to move on, to have a life.' Whenever I felt, 'I can't do this,' I thought about my kids."

She says she hardly remembers the first six months after the accident, relying on accounts her kids and friends gave her about that time.

"I think it was part of my coping mechanism," she said.

Moulton, now 48, runs her own winery in Sonoma, which she and her kids named Midnight Moulton, named after her deceased husband's nickname to honour him. She remarried a year ago and has a second book on the way, aimed at helping people who have lost something — be it a job, a friend, or a spouse. She hopes people can learn from her experiences that life is uncertain and the best you can do is make the choice to move on.

"You do have the power to make decisions in your life. You don't have the power to change the past, or even what might happen to you today, but if you can just pull the positive things out of an experience, you can move on with your life. Take small steps. You don't have to take huge leaps," Moulton said.

wine's on the mind

» Sonoma Valley is an area of California north of San Fransisco that's famous for it's wine production. Some wineries include: Adler Fels, Amapola Creek Vineyards & Winery, Kenwood Vineyards, Bartholomew Park Winery and Moon Mountain Vineyards.

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Phys-ed at work can pay off

Activity programs may lower deaths, study indicates

Workplace programs targeting physical inactivity and unhealthy dietary habits are effective in mitigating the impact of obesity, diabetes and heart disease, according to a study published this week.

> *«Enhancing employee productivity … and moderating medical care costs are some of the arguments that might foster senior management to initiate and invest in …(workplace health promotion) programs.»* WHO study

Deaths from non-communicable diseases such as heart disease, stroke, cancer and diabetes are forecast to rise 17 per cent in 2005-2015, said the joint study by the business thinktank the World Economic Forum and the U.N.'s World Health Organization (WHO).

The impact of these deaths and health problems on the economies of different countries is dramatic, with China forecast to lose $557.7 billion in the period, Russia $303.2 billion and India $236.6 billion, it said.

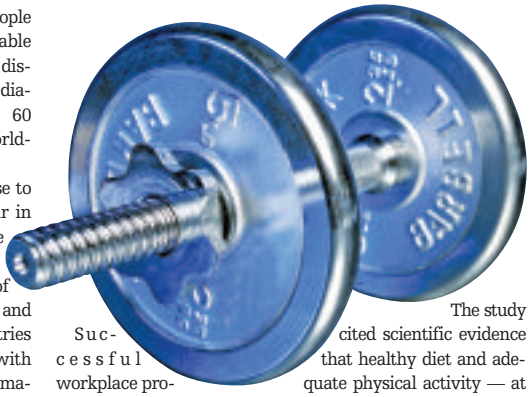
"Enhancing employee productivity, improving corporate image and moderating medical care costs are some of the arguments that might foster senior management to initiate and invest in WHP (workplace health promotion) programs," it said.

Unhealthy diets and excessive energy intake, physical inactivity and tobacco use are major risk factors for non-communicable diseases, it said.

In 2005, about 35 million people died of non-communicable diseases such as heart disease, stroke, cancer and diabetes, accounting for 60 percent of all deaths worldwide, it said.

This is projected to rise to 47 million deaths a year in the next 25 years, the study said.

Around 80 per cent of these deaths occur in low and middle-income countries that also have to deal with infectious diseases, poor maternal and perinatal conditions and nutritional deficiencies, it said.



Successful workplace programs are linked to business objectives, enjoy strong management support, involve staff from the start and are adapted to social norms, it said.

The study cited scientific evidence that healthy diet and adequate physical activity — at least 30 minutes of moderate activity a minimum of five days per week — help prevent non-communicable disease.

The study, based on programs in rich countries mainly in Europe and North America, said further research was needed, especially for poor countries.

The study was presented as the WHO's annual World Health Assembly opened in Geneva. Business leaders attending the launch urged the 193-member state forum to tackle the causes of chronic disease in the workplace.

REUTERS

A recent study cited scientific evidence that healthy diet and adequate physical activity — at least 30 minutes of moderate activity at least five days a week — help prevent non-communicable disease such as heart disease, stroke and diabetes. Workplace programs targeting inactivity help prevent such disease, the study also indicates.

metro TOP 5IVE

Ways to stay healthy at work:

1. Take the stairs.
2. When someone asks if you want to order some unhealthy food, just say no.
3. If possible, walk to work.
4. Bathroom breaks, as many as possible.
5. Have a big breakfast to help get you through the day.

— Douglas Dunlop/ for Metro Vancouver

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Workers putting on the pounds: Poll

Financial services employees may gain most weight

Swimsuit season is right around the corner and for many people that means one thing: dieting. In an office setting, though, cutting back on calories and finding time to exercise can seem like an impassable hurdle, as a new *CareerBuilder.com* survey reports that 45 per cent of workers have gained weight at their current jobs.

Twenty-six per cent of employees report they have gained more than ten pounds and 12 per cent say they gained more than 20 pounds while in their present positions.

Comparing industries, 53 per cent of financial services employees and 52 per cent of government employees say they have gained weight in their current positions; the highest recorded weight gain among industries surveyed. Retail and leisure and hospitality had the lowest percentage of employees gain weight in their current roles, at 36 per cent and 41 per cent, respectively.

"Weight gain can be quite common in the workplace, especially when the winter months keep most of us cooped up all day and calorie-laden treats seem to wait around every corner," said Rosemary Haefner, vice-president of Human Resources for CareerBuilder. "As the weather warms up and people are more likely to get in a healthy mindset, it's a great time of year to be more aware of your health, get active and be more cognizant of your food choices."

gender gap

» Comparing genders, women are more likely (50 per cent) than men (42 per cent) to say they have gained weight at their current jobs.

Eating habits can often be a culprit in workplace weight gain. Nearly two-in-five (38 per cent) employees surveyed eat out for lunch twice or more per week, making it difficult to control portions and calorie intake. An additional 12 per cent buy their lunch out of a vending machine at least once a week.

Snacking can also be a slippery slope for those trying to cut back on calories, as two-thirds (66 per cent) of employees surveyed snack at least once a day, while nearly 25 per cent snack at least twice a day.

One of the ways employees can cut back on workplace weight gain is by heading to the gym during lunch hour, but according to the survey, only 9 per cent of employees work up a sweat in the middle of the day.

More employees may be inclined to take advantage of gym facilities during lunch and outside of work, though, as 28 per cent of companies now provide gym passes, workout facilities or wellness benefits.

Forty-five per cent of workers in the United States have gained weight, a new survey suggests.

KEEPING FIT

» Start the day off right: Eating a high-protein and fiber-filled breakfast can provide the energy you need to get you to lunch and avoid the temptation of break room doughnuts, candy or other high-fat treats;

» Stay hydrated: Sometimes a snack craving can be mistaken for dehydration. Be sure to keep water or another healthy beverage at your desk throughout the day so that you can hydrate freely;

» Write it down: Keeping nutrition and food journal can help you track how your snacks and meals add up during the day, allowing you to notice when you overindulge;

» Mix up your routine: Every little bit of activity helps, so take the stairs to your floor, walk over to co-workers instead of calling or e-mailing them or try parking your car farther away from the office;

» Keep your cool: Stress can fuel poor eating habits, as you can tend to overeat or make inadequate food choices when you're feeling overwhelmed. Try to manage stress with regular exercise and speak with a supervisor if you're workload is drowning you.

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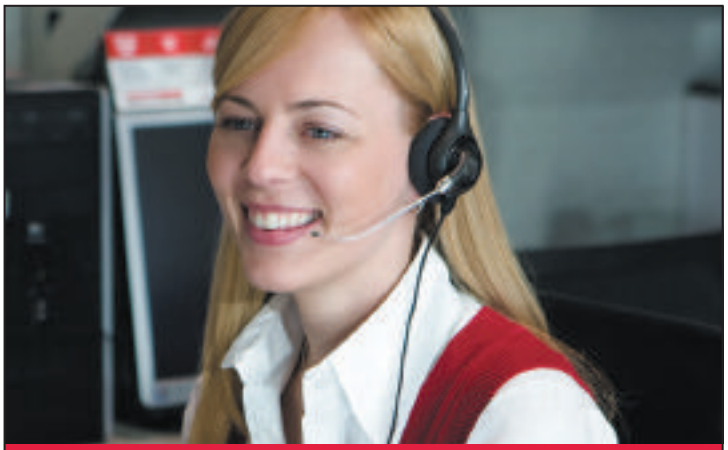

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Music fest calls out for security staff

By **ANDREW KING**
for Metro Vancouver

B.C.'s largest security company needs staff to handle crowds of more than 40,000 at the biggest event of the summer.

Genesis Security is looking to hire up to 300 security personnel for the Pemberton Music Festival, an event that features the likes of Coldplay and Jay-Z, from July 25-27.

For Ashley Meehan, Genesis director of advanced services, candidates with strong physical abilities are important, but other traits are just as equally important.

"We want someone who has a good head on their shoulders … someone who can be calm in situations," he said.

Meehan still needs new people to work the stage front, gates and the many campsites at the festival, including many women.

New recruits will first have to complete Genesis' training academy to become certified security officers. The program includes a minimum of 64 hours of classroom courses and practical training that takes about two weeks to complete.

Meehan said there is still plenty of time for people to get trained and gain valuable experience before Pemberton.

"We've got a lot of events between now and then," he said. "If they're new they work with us for a while (and) we put them on events that some of our better trained supervisors will be…"

Meehan added that working for Genesis Security can be a great way for people wanting to begin a career in law enforcement.

"Anyone that wants to get into that field it is actually a good stepping stone for them to get some actual experience."

To find out more, visit *genesissecurity.com.*

Contracts can be tricky

Workers beware of dangerous terms

When it comes to employment contracts, all is fair in love and war, as pretty much anything can be incorporated into the deal. Employees should, therefore, beware of the following terms:

PROBATIONARY PERIODS: Agreeing to a probationary period allows an employer to dismiss for reasons that would otherwise be insufficient, as long as a proper audition is given. It needs only to show that, in its opinion, the employee was unsuitable for the position, with suitability including character, competence and compatibility. If these considerations are fairly assessed, the employer can end the relationship with impunity by providing only minimum notice or pay.

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BONUSES: If tied to annual compensation and paid as a matter of course, seldom are bonuses truly optional. Unless a contract provides otherwise, employees cannot be deprived of this pay upon termination. And even where contracts expressly state that bonuses are not payable following termination, court cases have construed that term to mean the date of legal termination, which can be many months following the day that the employee actively ceases work.

FIXED-TERM CONTRACTS: Employees hired to complete a defined task or for a specific term, such as twelve months, are not entitled to indefinite employment. That is, when the fixed-term contract comes to an end, the employee has no right to receive severance or even to continue as before.

Make sure you read your employment contract very carefully before accepting.

NOTICE OF TERMINATION: Every employment contract includes, at a minimum, an implied rule that employees can only be fired with proper notice or severance. But (and in law there is always an exception) if a contract specifically defines some lesser period, even if manifestly unfair, the employee will often be held to that term, as it is the unfortunate bargain that he or she made.

NO CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL: Once employment begins, significant and negative changes to the job are prohibited, without proper advance notice or employee consent. If serious changes, such as location, pay or a demotion are imposed, the employee may reject them and sue for wrongful dismissal damages. If, however, a cleverly drafted contract can be construed as contemplating the disputed change, the employee may have to accept it, or otherwise be without remedy.

RESIGNATIONS: Unless constructive dismissal is asserted, employees cannot simply pack up and leave; notice of their resignation must often be provided. Just as employers are required to provide reasonable notice that the job will end, employees must do the same. What is reasonable, however, is not judged on how long it would take that employee to replace his or her job but rather, how long, on an objective basis, should it take the employer to recruit the next candidate. Where a contract specifically states the amount of notice that must be provided, follow it – or risk being sued for wrongful resignation.

• • •

In "Law protects employers against unfair competition," published on May 14, 2008, it was reported that Fred Moroz was ordered not to solicit or entice his old clients to join him. However, on April 2, 2008, the B.C. Court of Appeal ruled that Mr. Moroz is not prohibited or restricted in any way whatsoever from soliciting customers of the Defendant, Wilson M. Beck Insurance Services Inc., as the matter is schedule for an appeal.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer practising exclusively in the law of wrongful dismissal. He can be reached at dan@canadaemploymentlawyer.com or through his website, canadaemploymentlawyer.com.

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Thurs. May 29, 4 - 6 p.m. Room 616

Culinary Arts
Fri. May 23, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Room 305 C

Drafting Technician – Steel Detailing
Drafting Technician – Architectural-Civil/Structural
Wed. May 28, 1 - 2 p.m. and 4 - 5 p.m. Room 724

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Saturn's perky performer

Belgian-made Astra a neat little road-runner

By **MICHAEL BANOVSKY**
for Metro Vancouver

Instead of fighting the imports with American innovation, Saturn is battling back with the Belgian-made Astra.

Much is made about the original philosophy behind GM's Saturn division, which was to lure import buyers from their Corollas and Civics and get them into Saturn's SLs and SCs.

Combined with plastic body panels and no-haggle pricing, General Motors thought they'd created a winner. But the fact always remained that Saturn's products lacked both an American identity and Japanese reliability. It was like going for sushi at McDonald's. Still, the brand ended up outliving Oldsmobile and ditching its oft-touted plastic body panels.

Now, instead of fighting the imports with American innovation, Saturn is battling back with a few imports of its own. The Belgian-made Astra never suffers from a lack of ride comfort or handling over its peers, and the only complaint you'll ever hear handling-wise is from stoplight racers with body piercings and noise violations. But come on. This is an economy car … and a damn fine-handling one at that.

Between corners, there's sufficient power to crush eggs after grocery shopping. Now, if you decide to read other reviews on the car, the tester will probably say power from the 1.8-litre Ecotec four-cylinder engine is merely adequate. Not so. It's just as much as you'll ever need, with a good torque spread and well-spaced gear ratios to chuff you along.

Top-notch build quality and high-grade plastics combine with clean-cut European style to make the interior one of the best in its class. You'll even notice that an impressive trip computer sits smack in the middle of the car's dash. In lesser models, the information and screen is toned down a notch, but in XR trim with the top-grade stereo, it gets as advanced as a graphic equalizer! The final interesting feature — and class exclusive — is an optional dual-panel sunroof that lightens the interior, sports a large opening and features a sunshade.

Saturn is billing the three-door Astra as the upscale model, with the five-door as the entry-level product at just $17,900 for an XE without air conditioning. The only three-door trim level is XR, for $21,225. Fully loaded, the three-door even comes with 18-inch wheels.

Those shopping for a small car should immediately take a look at the Astra. I've said before that it should make a big impact in Canada. It will. But moreover, strong sales may convince other manufacturers with impressive European and Japanese products to enter the Canadian market with previously unseen technologies. As it stands now, the Astra is a great car and hangs with the class leaders as the final chapter in Saturn's product renaissance.

2008 Saturn Astra 5-door XE

- Type: Compact 5-pass. hatchback FWD
- Price: $17,900
- Engine: 1.8L L4 DOHC
- HP: 138 @ 6,300 rpm
- Torque: 125 @ 3,800 rpm

Highlights:

- Style
- Hidden practicality
- European build quality
- Standard safety features

Top-notch build quality combines with clean-cut European style to make Astra's interior one of the best in its class.

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Luxury SUV with a twist

Acura RDX has sights trained on competitors

By **MICHAEL BANOVSKY**
for Metro Vancouver

Until a short while ago, if you thought your life needed a premium compact SUV you could buy a BMW X3 or ... well, there weren't any real alternatives.

Currently, the X3 stands beside Infiniti's EX35, the Land Rover LR2, upcoming Volvo XC60, and so on.

Now, Acura has hopped into the arena.

The new Acura RDX has its sights trained on the X3 and similar entries in what is expected to become a fast-growing niche in the vast SUV/CUV pantheon.

And why not? For a long time, drivers have been craving a utilitarian vehicle that doesn't look like a wagon or guzzle gas like a full-sized SUV.

Like all Acuras, the RDX is based on a car-like, front-drive architecture, but it adopts the Super-Handling-AWD concept first seen on the flagship RL luxury sedan. This street-oriented system (no transfer case, no differential locks) not only can vary torque distribution from 90/10 per cent front/rear to 30/70 per cent, it can also speed up the outside rear wheel during cornering.

The interior is simply a nice place to be whether you opt for the high-zoot Tech package or stick with a base model rig.

The net result is an SUV that — riding on 18-inch wheels and with near-50/50 weight distribution — can corner like a rear-drive sport sedan.

One price you pay for this, however, is a stiff ride.

The 2.3-litre "four" under the RDX's hood is Acura's first turbo unit. It's good for 240 hp, and zero to 100 km/h in eight seconds. The engine isn't as musical, however, as we usually expect in an Acura.

Athletic road moves don't come at the expense of utility. The driver gets a commanding seating position, and there's ample room for passengers and cargo. An optional Technology Package adds GPS navigation, a rear-view camera and super-duper audio.

The interior is simply a nice place to be whether or not you opt for the high-zoot Tech package or stick with a base model rig.

Sleek black plastics and metal-look accents make it a great place to spend a road trip.

Mustang

Ford model hits 9-million mark

MILESTONE Iowa farmer Thomas Krumm went to his local Ford dealer recently to order a Mustang GT convertible and unwittingly ordered a piece of history — his Mustang is the nine-millionth built by the Ford Motor Company.

He discovers that on May 6 when he picked up his milestone Mustang at the local dealer in Story City, Iowa.

The Mustang is Ford's longest-running nameplate. It was introduced on April 17, 1964 at the New York World's Fair and went on to become one of the most widely recognized vehicles in the world.

Today, one of every two sports cars sold in America is a Mustang.

Sales for the vehicle hit an astounding 419,000 in its first 12 months on the market, and topped the one-million mark in its first two years, shattering the sales records of any single model in the history of the automobile.

Few people tire smart: Survey

Under-inflated tires increase driving risks, waste fuel and cause tires to wear out faster but few vehicle owners pay adequate attention to their tires.

A national survey by the Rubber Manufacturers Association showed 85 per cent of American drivers do not properly check tire inflation pressure and there's no reason to think Canadian drivers are any better.

"Record high gas prices should be an incentive for motorists to take every step possible to help make their cars and their money go further," said Dan Zielinski, RMA senior vice-president, public affairs. "While our survey found that 61 per cent of motorists agreed that checking tire pressure is very important to maximizing fuel economy, only one in seven drivers properly perform this easy task."

recommendation

» The RMA recommends that tire pressure be checked at least once every month with a tire gauge.

Checking tires is not only a fuel saving tip. It can also be life saving. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), under-inflated tires contribute to 660 fatalities and 33,000 injuries each year in the United States alone.

Under inflated tires also cause premature tire wear that can force consumers to replace tires sooner.

A survey by the Rubber Manufacturer's Association showed that few vehicle owners pay adequate attention to their tires.

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Driving smoothly and avoiding idling are some of the things you can do to avoid too many trips to the pump.

Make most of every tank

Simple things to do to increase fuel efficiency

As the cost of driving seems to rise every day, drivers are looking to get the most out of every tank. While some use alternative modes of transportation, many people need their cars on a daily basis. For those in the driver's seat, there are simple ways to increase fuel efficiency and save at the pump.

John and Helen Taylor can attest to that. The couple, who hold the Guinness World Record for Fuel Efficiency, set the record in 2006 when they averaged 52.1 miles per gallon in a record-setting road trip around the world. By using Shell "FuelStretch" tips, they were able to stretch the boundaries of fuel efficiency in their standard model Volkswagen Golf FSI 1.6.

"With the cost of vehicle ownership and car care growing every year, we all want to be more fuel efficient," says Mark Ferner, Shell fuels engineer and ASE-certified technician. "Using money-saving driving techniques and car care tips is an easy way to help get the most out of every gasoline purchase." Here's how:

» Drive smoothly: Avoid heavy acceleration or braking. Speeding, rapid acceleration and braking can lower your gasoline mileage by five per cent around town and by 33 per cent at highway speeds.

» Replace dirty or clogged air filters: Replacing a dirty or clogged air filter can improve mileage by as much as 10 per cent.

» Keep your engine well-tuned and repair any problems immediately.

» Make sure tires are not over or under-inflated: Keeping tires at the correct pressure can improve your gasoline mileage by more than three per cent.

» Minimize vehicle drag: Keep your trunk and back seat clear of unnecessary items that only add weight. Removing excess weight can improve your gasoline mileage.

» Use the recommended grade of oil in your engine: Following your manufacturer's motor oil recommendation can improve gasoline mileage by up to two per cent.

» Use cruise control on major roads and in free-flowing traffic.

» Avoid idling: When you idle, you get zero miles per gallon.

» Avoid higher speeds: Gasoline mileage usually decreases when driving at speeds over 100 km/h.

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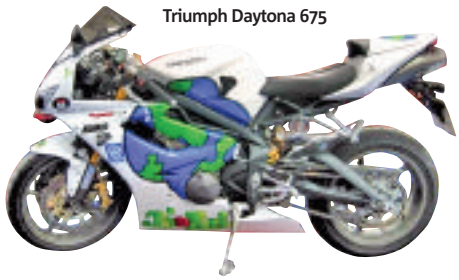
Triumph Daytona 675



Bike reaps fruits of apple-based biofuel

A Triumph Daytona 675 powered by bioethanol fuel recently reached an astonishing track speed of 255 km/h at a test facility in Bruntingthorpe, England.

The biofuel used for this groundbreaking initiative was produced by students from a local high school, using windfall apples.

Devised by a motorcycle magazine editor, "Project Fast Fruit" aimed to convert and run a high performance vehicle on biofuel using only basic equipment.

As such, the fuel was produced in a chemistry lab as part of a class project by students from the Prince William School in Oundle, Northamptonshire.

Triumph Motorcycles, the iconic British manufacturer, initially entered into the scheme some four months ago by providing its world leading Daytona 675 model as the test bike.

driven to succeed

» The successful final run was the result of four months of hard work — the school having fermented and distilled around 6,000 crushed apples while the magazine modified the Daytona's engine to run on bioethanol.

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Free Range Chicken	$19
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'Happy Hour' runs once a week in Metro.

Ireland's biggest bed and breakfast(B&B) organization has launched a new website and live booking engine, *www.townandcountry.ie*; you can now book a multiple-location B&B holiday in one visit to the site. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Insider's guide to Amsterdam

By **INGE TE SCHURE**
Metro World News

There's more to Amsterdam than canals, coffee shops, bicycles and the red light district. As well as its museums and the 17th-century houses along the canals, Amsterdam has a lot of surprising sites, undiscovered by the mainstream tourist.

Pay a visit to the smallest house in the world (located at Singel 7), the tiniest museum — the Miniature Museum for Modern Art (Singel 548), the "Magere brug" (skinny bridge, Amstel) or a Buddhist temple (Zeedijk 106-118) in the heart of the city.

At Amsterdam's markets, you'll likely find evidence of the country's liberal marijuana laws.

where to stay

BUDGET: STAYOKAY AMSTERDAM ZEEBURG

A brand new hostel located east of the centre in a typical Amsterdam neighbourhood designed by Dutch architect Edward van Vliet. The hostel shares this 1900s former school with a café/restaurant, theatre and cinema. *www.stayokay.com*

MID-RANGE: NH CITY CENTRE HOTEL

A hotel at the heart of Amsterdam overlooking the famous Singel Canal, close to the flower market and the home of Anne Frank. Offers a shuttle bus to and from the airport 20 kilometres away. *www.nh-hotels.com*

DELUXE: GRAND HOTEL AMRATH AMSTERDAM

A new luxury hotel set in the newly-restored Shipping House, a monumental building built between 1912 and 1916 in the Amsterdam School style that retains many of its original features. In the centre of town, 500 metres from the central station. *amrathamsterdam.com*

what to see

ANNE FRANKHUIS

The house where Anne Frank wrote her famous diary as she and her Jewish family hid during World War II is now a well-known museum telling the story of their experience. Anne Frank's diary is among the original objects on display. *annefrank.org*

VAN GOGH MUSEUM

The museum contains the largest collection of paintings by Vincent van Gogh in the world, giving the visitor the chance to track the artist's developments, or compare his paintings to works by other artists from the 19th century in the collection. *www.vangoghmuseum.nl*

RED LIGHT DISTRICT

Dating back to the 14th century when sailors arrived in need of some female company, the district just south of the central station is full of sex shops, brothels, gay bars, cinemas, hotels and different kinds of museums. While this part of the city is a major tourist attraction, the mayor has been trying to clean it up of late. *http://amsterdam red-light-district.info/*

where to eat

HAESKE CLAES

A traditional restaurant that occupies six epic buildings in the historical centre of Amsterdam, complete with original architectural features. They serve traditional Dutch dishes including stamppot: Mashed potatoes with a vegetable, served with sausage and bacon. *http://www.haesjeclaes.nl/*

PANAMA

Trendy Mediterranean restaurant and club in the old port centre, the area is sometimes called the Manhattan of Amsterdam. Eat there then enjoy live jazz on Thursday and Sunday and sets from big name house DJs on the weekend. Book ahead *www.panama.nl*

where to club

HOTEL ARENA

A cultural meeting point, Hotel Arena is actually a hotel, restaurant, bar and club in one. Built as an orphanage in 1890 this building became a youth hostel in 1982 and was given its other functions in 1990. Housed in the building's former chapel, the club offers two floors of music, a mix of international DJs, 80s theme nights, salsa lounge and club classic. *www.hotelarena.nl*

CINEAC

New club owned by famous Dutch DJ Tiësto located in a monumental building that used to be a cinema. A young trendy crowd dines at the restaurant, and it's a club every Thursday, Friday and Saturday with the latest house and electronic music. *www.cineac.nl*

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If your love of travel is rivalled only by your passion for rocking out, plan a visit to one of the many open-air music festivals taking place around the globe this summer:

BONNAROO

Named best festival by Rolling Stone Magazine, Bonnaroo is a four-day, multi-stage camping festival hosted on a 700-acre farm in Manchester, Tenn. The party gets under way June 12, rain or shine, with dozens of acts such as Pearl Jam, Kanye West, Death Tiesto, BB King and Broken Social Scene; *www.bonnaroo.com.*

SCHLAGERMOVE

Schlagermove festival in Hamburg, Germany, set for July 4-5, attracts some 300,000 participants every year. Young and old alike dress in crazy costumes, sing quirky German songs and drink copious amounts of booze. Follow the crowd to a series of tents where patrons rock out to retro Schlager classics; *www.schlagermove.de.*

FUJI ROCK FESTIVAL

Set in the mountains of northern Japan, Fuji Rock Festival, held July 25-27, hosts both up-and-coming local bands and high-profile headliners like Underworld; *www.smash-uk.com/frfo8.*

GLASTONBURY FESTIVAL

The UK's Glastonbury Festival claims to be the "largest greenfield music and performing arts festival in the world." From June 27-29, there'll be performances by Leonard Cohen, Jay-Z, Manu Chao, The Verve, John Mayer, Groove Armada, Mark Ronson and many more; *www.glastonburyfestivals.co.uk.*

DISTANT HEAT

Distant Heat is an all-night rave in Jordan's Wadi Rum desert. Held July 31 to Aug. 1. It features the best of international electronic and dance music in one of the world's most magical and remote locations; *www.distantheat.com.*

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entertainment

Christian Bale is to play rebel leader John Connor in three sequels to the Terminator franchise, its producers have revealed.

BBC NEWS ONLINE

It's all up to Idol viewers

Popularity of singer counts, not technicality

ON TV

SANDY CAETANO
sandy.caetano@metronews.ca

If this competition was actually based on the technicality of the performances of the contestants, David Archuleta would be crowned this year's champion.

But American Idol is a popularity contest. This year's winner will depend on who wowed the viewers more — Archuleta or David Cook.

With three songs each to sing last night, Round 1's songs were chosen by Clive Davis.

Cook sang U2's I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For, and though he seemed very nervous at the start, once he started singing all that tension evaporated and he did shine like a star.

Archuleta sang Don't Let The Sun Go Down On Me by Elton John, and stood his ground with another flawless number.

Round 2 had them sing one of two possibilities for the winner's song. Cook's rendition of Dream Big sounded like Harem Scarem or something like that from the '80s or '90s. As good as it was, it wasn't very memorable.

Archuleta sang In This Moment — again, another ballad to get all the pre-pubescent girl's hearts fluttering. There was nothing new, but it was a very strong performance.

The final round was competitor's choice. Singing The World I Know by Collective Soul was Cook, but he mumbled most of the song and lost his edge.

Archuleta re-sung Imagine by John Lennon. It's something we've seen before, but it was amazing.

It may have been the battle of the Davids but in the end it was Goliath — Ruben Studdard — who ended the show with Celebrate Me Home.

CTV PHOTO

American Idol's David Archuleta, left, and David Cook

casting

Holmes to debut on Broadway

THEATRE Katie Holmes will make her Broadway debut this autumn in a revival of Arthur Miller's All My Sons, starring alongside Oscar winner Dianne Wiest and Tony winner John Lithgow.

weddings

Star Trek actor to wed his partner

PEOPLE George Takei, best known for playing Mr. Sulu on Star Trek, says he plans to wed his partner now that the California Supreme Court has overturned a ban on gay marriage. Takei, 71, said he and Brad Altman, 54, his business manager, are going through the of planning their nuptials. REUTERS

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music

The bestselling CDs on Amazon.ca are: 1. Snacktime, Barenaked Ladies (front man Steven Page, left); 2. Rockferry, Duffy; 3. Narrow Stairs, Death Cab For Cutie; 4. Hard Candy, Madonna; 5. Home Before Dark, Neil Diamond.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

metro TOP 5IVE

Glam rock acts:

1. David Bowie, below
2. Kiss
3. Alice Cooper
4. Twisted Sister
5. New York Dolls

— Metro News Services

GETTY IMAGES FILE IMAGES

Tales of tattoo rock

Devotion written in ink for Coheed And Cambria fans

By **AMANDA B. HAUPT**
for Metro Vancouver

Coheed and Cambria's website has a section called fan uploads with the subheading tattoos; posted are numerous photos of fans expressing their devotion to the progressive rock band in ink.

"I think it's really awesome," bassist Michael Todd tells Metro. "We are the definition of a cult band and that kind of proves it, and I love it."

Hailing from New York, the band's lineup also includes vocalist and guitarist Claudio Sanchez, guitarist Travis Stever and drummer Chris Pennie.

Known for their concept albums, Coheed's current release, Good Apollo, I'm Burning Star IV, Volume Two: No World For Tomorrow, is the band's fourth disc and part of a continuing storyline based on Sanchez's comic book project called the Amory Wars.

Todd summarizes the plot, explaining, "there are two characters, kind of anti-heroes Coheed and Cambria, and their children, and basically what happens after their (Coheed and Cambria's) deaths and their one son's vendetta, ends the entire universe."

That's the extremely short version. When asked if the band worries about alienating potential new fans by overwhelming them with the complex story, the bassist does admit it comes with a certain level of baggage.

CHAPMAN BAEHLER PHOTO

Coheed And Cambria are touring in Canada in support of latest album, Good Apollo, I'm Burning Star IV, Volume Two: No World for Tomorrow, the latest concept album from the New York group.

see it live ...

» Coheed And Cambria plays the Commodore Ballroom tonight.

"We make a point that you don't really need the story to get into the music. I mean we're a rock band first and foremost. The story's there if people choose to explore that avenue, but it's definitely not necessary."

Todd says the band has at least one more disc planned to tie in to the comics.

"We have one more definitely and that will wrap up everything in this particular part of the story. And then we might move on to another part of the universe or we might make regular records."

With a list of Influences that includes Queen, Pink Floyd, and Led Zeppelin, it's no wonder Coheed and Cambria's music is generally labeled as prog rock.

But lately the group has also been labelled with the emo tag, which is something Todd doesn't necessarily agree with,

"I think it's an all encompassing band we have here, in the broad sense it's just rock music. Progressive's I think the most accurate category," he says. "Emo I think is more of a time and place thing ... but I think we can fit in anywhere to a certain extent. Generally we're a rock band first and foremost."

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Wilson in sentimental mood

Ex-Beach Boy to release new disc

Brian Wilson will release his first album in more than three years in September, a project that marks his return to Capitol Records, the label where he gained fame with the Beach Boys during the 1960s.

That Lucky Old Sun will come out in the United States and Canada Sept. 2, and a day earlier internationally, Wilson and Capitol announced during a news conference at the label's historic tower in Hollywood this week.

"It's a great honor to be here and a very sentimental time in my life," said Wilson, 65, looking relatively healthy in a striped polo shirt, faded jeans and slip-on tennis shoes. "I haven't recorded here in 46 years, almost half a century that I haven't recorded here. Ha!"

VALERIE MACON/GETTY IMAGES

Brian Wilson

He said he had fond memories of recording the Beach Boys' 1962 debut, Surfin' Safari at Capitol. Later efforts, such as 1966's Pet Sounds, were recorded at other studios around Hollywood, though the group remained signed to Capitol, now a unit of closely held EMI Group Plc.

Most of Wilson's solo recordings, including his self-titled 1988 debut and 2004's Grammy-winning Smile, have been released by Warner Music Group Corp. His last album, What I Really Want for Christmas, came out in 2005 through Arista Records.

Described by Capitol as "a musical love letter from Southern California," the new album features 11 songs punctuated by spoken-word narratives describing life in Los Angeles.

REUTERS

John Cusack, right, is in negotiations to play a heroic survivor in Roland Emmerich's apocalyptic 2012, which Columbia Pictures plans to release next July. REUTERS

casting

Liotta playing bad cop in teen drama

Liotta

MOVIES Ray Liotta will get on Michael Cera's case in Youth in Revolt, a comedy based on the popular novels about a smart, sexually obsessed teen living in a world of moronic adults.

Cera (Juno) plays the teen, Nick Twisp. Liotta will play a cop who is having an affair with Twisp's mom (Jean Smart). When that relationship goes sour, the cop gets his twisted revenge on the mom by going after Nick, who stands accused of arson.

Fox takes dip in Port Moody

HOLLYWOOD NORTH

ROBERT FALCONER
robert.falconer@metronews.ca

Actress **Megan Fox**, who made a name for herself playing Mikaela Banes in last year's **Transformers** flick — and who is currently ranked number one on IMDB's STARmeter — was spotted shooting a titillating nude skinny-dipping scene in Port Moody recently for her latest film, **Jennifer's Body**. The film, from **Juno** director **Jason Reitman**, has been lensing all around the Lower Mainland, and stars Fox as a possessed cheerleader who begins offing her male classmates. The film also stars **Adam Brody** (**The O.C.**), **Johnny Simmons** (**Evan Almighty**) and **J.K. Simmons** (**Spider-Man**).

Meanwhile, **Hayden Panettiere** was at Alouette Lake in Maple Ridge last Wednesday filming sequences for I **Love You Beth Cooper**, the story of a nerdy valedictorian who proclaims his love for the hottest and most popular girl in school. Panettiere who has been sighted around town quite often recently, is best known for playing Claire in the hit NBC series **Heroes**.

MAIL ORDER BRIDE COMES TO TOWN: **Daphne Zuniga** (**One Tree Hill**) and **Greg Evigan** (**TekWar**) have signed on to star in the Hallmark Channel telefilm **Mail Order Bride**, which is set to shoot in Vancouver with an eye toward a November premiere. Zuniga plays a woman whose friend dies before coming out West to be a mail-order bride. Zuniga's character takes her friend's place in order to escape from a mobster (Evigan) who "owns her" and keeps her involved in illegal activities she doesn't want to be a part of anymore.

BUTTERFLY TO LAND IN VANCOUVER: A third installment of **The Butterfly Effect** is in the works, and will arrive in Vancouver Sept. 1 to begin filming. The story centres on a young man with the power to time travel who attempts to solve the mystery of his high school girlfriend's death.

Both the original film — which starred **Ashton Kutcher** as a young man who blocks out harmful memories of significant events in his life (2004) — and the sequel (2006), shot in Vancouver. No casting info has yet been announced.

Robert Falconer is a writer specializing in media communications, entertainment journalism and creative arts. A knowledgeable disciple of film and television, he is the founder and executive editor of CinemaSpy.ca

»news
In Brief

» **TV** NBC has picked up a series described as a contemporary take on the David vs. Goliath tale. Kings which stars Christopher Egan and Ian McShane is set in a besieged metropolis. When a brave young soldier, rescues the king's son from enemy territory, he sets events in motion that will finally bring peace. REUTERS

»going out

7:30 p.m. City And Colour. At the Orpheum Theatre, 884 Granville St. Tix: $35/29.50. Info: *ticketmaster.ca*

8 p.m. Heather Griffin. At The Oasis, 1240 Thurlow St. Tix: $5. Info: *oasisvancouver.com*.

9 p.m. Downbeats on the Drive. At Café Deux Soleils, 2096 Commercial Dr. Tix: By donation. Info: *cafedeuxsoleils.com*

9:15 p.m. Coheed and Cambria with guest Baroness. At the Commodore Ballroom, 868 Granville St. Tix: $25. Info: *livenation.com*.

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	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	251	308	3 CBC	News (CC)	Just-Gags	Little Mosque	Sophie	CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National (N)		(:05) The Hour
	255	358	6 CH	E! News	The Insider	Obituary (2006, Suspense) Josie Bissett. (CC)				Stunt Stars "Freezer Burn"		News (N)
	254	-	8 M	Law & Order: SVU		Mandarin News		Cantonese News (N)		Punjabi News (In Punjabi N)		South Park
	250	321	9 CTV	Criminal Minds "Lo-Fi" (CC)		American Idol The winner is announced. (Part 2 of 2) (CC)				CSI: NY "Hostage" (CC)		News (N)
	-	-	10 OMNI	According-Jim	The Simpsons	Coach (CC)	Coach (CC)	The Standard	Ustat (CC)	Cold Case "Gleen" (CC)		New Day
	252	336	11 GTV	Entertainment	ET Canada	Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade ★★★ (1989) Harrison Ford. Premiere.					Family Guy	News (N)
	256	389	12 VI	Degrassi	Friends (CC)	Lost "Cabin Fever" Locke finds out where Jacob's cabin is.				Law & Order "Excalibur"		News (N)
	253	359	13 CITY	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Make Me a Supermodel (N)		Rock of Love-Bret Michaels		Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Reviews
	-	-	14 CW	'70s Show	'70s Show	Farmer Wants a Wife (CC)		Farmer Wants a Wife (CC)		Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)
	289	381	15 CBS	Entertainment	The Insider	Price is Right Spectacular		Criminal Minds "Lo-Fi" (CC)		CSI: NY "Hostage" (CC)		News (N)
	287	379	16 NBC	Evening Mag.	Inside Edition	Law & Order "Tango" (CC)		Law & Order "Betrayal" (CC)		Law & Order "Excalibur"		News (N)
	602	568	19 W	Will & Grace	Friends (CC)	Shopping	Style by Jury	Smart Cookies	Stuck	Maxed Out	Style by Jury	Stuck
	288	380	21 ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Lost Kate and Juliet must work together to save Jack. (CC)				Boston Legal "Patriot Acts"		News (N)
	-	-	23 KVOS	M*A*S*H	Scrubs (CC)	The Toy ★★ (1982, Comedy) Richard Pryor, Jackie Gleason.				Will & Grace	Scrubs (CC)	Seinfeld
	291	383	27 PBS	Steves Europe	Field Guide	Secrets of the Dead		Depression: Out of the Shadows (N) (CC)				Detox
	290	382	28 FOX	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	American Idol The winner is announced. (Part 2 of 2) (CC)				News (N) (CC)		Family Guy
	-	364	48 PBS	Depress	Caring	Keeping Up	Being Served	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) (CC)		Secrets of the Dead	
	296	654	34 SBK	Frasier (CC)	Frasier (CC)	Cheers (CC)	South Park	Comics Un.	Half & Half	Entertainment	The Insider	Paid Program
	298	653	35 TLA	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Farmer Wants a Wife (CC)		Farmer Wants a Wife (CC)		KTLA Prime News (CC)		Friends (CC)
	295	651	36 WGN	WGN News at Nine (N) (CC)		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Sex and-City	Friends (CC)	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	My Wife-Kids
	297	652	37 WPX	CW11 News at Ten		Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Sex and-City	Will & Grace	Frasier (CC)	George Lopez	Odd Couple
	199	311	76 STR	News (N)	News		Late Show-Letterman		Inside Edition	Paradise Hotel 2		Late Late
news	502	390	29 NW	CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National (N)		CBC News: The National		The Secret World of Gardens		National
	500	500	40 CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (CC)		Cooper 360
sports	407	419	22 RSP	Sportsnet Connected (Live)		The Ultimate Fighter		Countdown to UFC 84		Sportsnet Connected (Live)		Sportsnet
	400	400	30 TSN	NBA Basketball: Western Conf. Final Game 1			SportsCentre (Live) (CC)		Boxing Wednesday Night Fights. (Taped)			SportsCentre
	411	457	49 OLN	Word Travels	Globe Guides	Pilot Guides "Kenya" (CC)		Don't Forget Your Passport		Ed's Up (CC)	Angry Planet	The Rig: Oil
	410	403	54 SCR	Score Tonight		The Spin With Steve Kouleas.		Score Update		Score Update		Score Update
	417	406	55 SC	Pass Time	Pass Time	Pinks	Pinks	Pinks	Pinks	Pinks	Pinks	Pass Time
	416	409	144 GLF	Fútbol Colombiano		Gol TV News		American Soccer		Gol TV News		Gol TV News
family	552	543	25 YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Prank Patrol	Fries That?	Mon. Warriors	Futurama	Shadow	Falcon Beach "Starting Over"		Mystery Hnt.
	555	545	50 TEL	George	Road Runner	Scooby-Doo	Futurama	Tripping-Rift	Tripping-Rift	Chicken	Chicken	Tripping-Rift
	557	541	51 FAM	That's-Raven	Smart Guy	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	553	546	56 TRE	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie	Beren. Bears	Babar (CC)	Backyard	Dora-Explorer	Crazy Quilt	The Bittles	Comfy Couch
cable variety	268	354	5 KNO	Lemur Street	Undersea	What the Ancients Did for Us		Surveillance (CC)		In Korea with Norm Christie		Celia Franca
	575	583	20 CMT	Home Imp.	Roseanne	Totally "Garth Brooks"		Reba (CC)	Hope & Faith	Home Imp.	Roseanne	Ed "Frankie"
	570	580	24 MM	PunchMuch		Punk'd (CC)	Totally Untrue	The O.C. (CC)		Gone Wild	Gone Wild	Spotlight
	600	564	26 H&G	Unsellable	Buy Me (N)	Open House	Secrets Sell	Hid Potential	House Worth?	Property	City	Unsellable
	615	520	61 A&E	CSI: Miami "Not Landing"		CSI: Miami "Rap Sheet"		CSI: Miami "Deadline" (CC)		CSI: Miami "The Oath" (CC)		CSI: Miami
	628	584	62 SPKE	The Ultimate Fighter (N)		Ways to Die	Ways to Die	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Star Trek: Voyager (CC)		Bullrun (CC)
	521	560	63 TLC	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate, Skiing		Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate
	616	522	69 SHO	ReGenesis "The End" (CC)		Da Vinci's Inquest (CC)		Trailer Park	Rent-A-Goalie	Life "Farthingale" (CC)		House (CC)
	620	523	70 BVO	(6:00) Treed Murray ★★ (CC)		Law & Order "Family Values"		Without a Trace "Fallout"		Entre la Mer et l'Eau Douce (1967) (CC)		
	601	562	71 SLC	Trading Spouses		X-Weighted		How to Find a Husband Sally.		Trading Spouses		Trading Sp
	520	505	72 DIS	Mayday "Fanning the Flames"		Daily Planet		MythBusters Western myths.		Really Big Things		Mayday
	522	506	74 HIS	NCIS "Sea Dog" (CC)		Re-Inventors	Legends	Working Over Time (CC)		NCIS "Sea Dog" (CC)		Crime Stories
	627	528	75 SPC	Supernatural (CC)		Stargate SG-1 "The Menace"		Star Trek: Voyager "Equinox"		Star Trek: Enterprise (CC)		Alias (CC)
	294	650	97 TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	Friends (CC)	Friends (CC)	Sex and-City	Sex and-City	Batman & Robin ★ (1997, Action) (PA) (CC)		
	619	525	98 TROP	TV Made	Ad Persuasion	ET Canada	What	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier (CC)	Family Guy
	603	561	99 FN	Dinner	Glutton	Challenge Fruit sculptures.		Iron Chef America (CC)		Dinner	Glutton	Challenge
	626	547	57 COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Laughs	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Lewis Black	Reno 911!	Daily Show
	320	621	60 CEN	Evan Almighty ★★ (2007) Steve Carell.		(:40) Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby ★★ (CC)				Evan Almighty ★★ (2007)		
	581	566	101 MTV	The Real World (CC)		MTV Live (CC)		The Real World (CC)		The Real World (CC)		MTV Live
	261	394	102 V	Rabbit Fall	Get-Famously	Side Effects "Skin Deep"		Jeeves and Wooster		Sorry	No Place Like	Recreat. Eden
	-	-	105 MUL	The Land	Daughters	Van. Nights	Iranian Pop	Sabor Latino		Hola Que Tal		Patrol World

critics'corner

Life
From leading two lives to being half the man he used to be — there's a comedown. Charlie and Danni (Damian Lewis, Sarah Shahi) investigate a gas explosion that left a man with half his torso gone. The victim was an IRS agent who was living a double life — complete with two wives. A detective's death further rocks Charlie's world in the episode "Farthingale." 10 PM on SHO

Boston Legal
Concord, Mass., cradle of the American Revolution, wants to secede from the U.S.? If you find that shocking, you're not alone. Denny (William Shatner) is appalled — and even more so when he finds out Alan (James Spader) is representing the secessionists. He signs on with the other side, and the two friends face off in court — which puts a damper on their celebration of their acceptance into the Auxiliary Coast Guard in the season finale, "Patriot Acts." 10 PM on ABC

celebritybuzz

What caused Shania breakup?

What caused the sudden breakup of Shania Twain and her husband, music producer Robert "Mutt" Lange, after 14 years of marriage? His relationship with another woman, say several sources.

After the separation was announced in a statement, Lange called the split "an unfortunate thing," People.com reports. He added, "It's literally just a growing apart, that's all."

But sources close to the situation say a third party was involved: Marie-Anne Thiébaud, a longtime secretary and manager of the couple's chateau in Switzerland. "Mutt and Marie-Anne left their spouses for each other and are still in a relationship," says one source.

Lange denies the claims. "It's absolutely not the reason [for the separation]," the famously reclusive producer told People magazine when asked about the alleged affair. Metro News Services

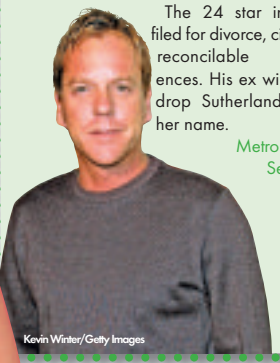
Michael Buckner /Getty Images

Kiefer is officially single

Kiefer Sutherland is officially single – he has finalized his divorce four years after filing for a legal separation from his wife Elizabeth, imd.com reports. The couple split in 1999. The divorce was made official in Los Angeles Superior Court on Friday.

The 24 star initially filed for divorce, citing irreconcilable differences. His ex will now drop Sutherland from her name.

Metro News Services


Kevin Winter/Getty Images

Taking time off is risky: Paltrow

Gwyneth Paltrow says that taking time off to be mother to daughter Apple, now 4, and son Moses, 2, made her feel forgotten by Hollywood, People.com reports.

In Cannes to promote Two Lovers, in which she costars with Joaquin Phoenix, the Shakespeare in Love Oscar winner, 35, expanded upon a comment made by Jodie Foster, who noted that Hollywood has a short memory.

"I really did not know if there would be a place for me," said Paltrow. "Jodie Foster was right, especially if you are a woman and especially if you are not 25. Hollywood is pretty cutthroat, and everybody has a short memory. There is always someone who is younger or hotter or prettier."

Metro News Services

Stephen Lovekin/Getty Images

Lohan facing lawsuit

The fur fuss swirling around Lindsay Lohan has gone legal – the actress has been slapped with a lawsuit for taking a coat without permission, Imdb.com reports. Masha Markova claims the star took her $12,000 mink coat as she left a New York club at the end of a night out in January.

The New York student has filed papers in Manhattan's state Supreme Court. She went public with the missing coat saga when she spotted Freaky Friday star Lohan wearing her mink in a magazine photo.

Metro News Services

Stephen Shugerman/ Getty Images

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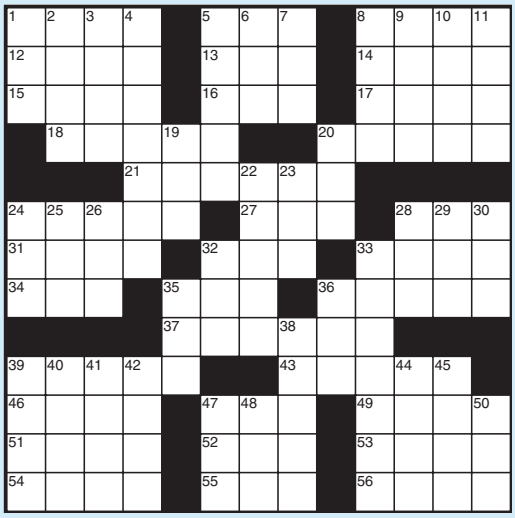

down »

1 Mooch
2 Heavy burden
3 Like cheesecake
4 Breathed out
5 Mannequin
6 Yale athlete
7 — Montgomery of jazz
8 Bride's purchase
9 White wader
10 Type of jacket
11 Bug repellent
19 Groove
20 Snake River loc.
22 Mild onions
23 Festive night
24 Vitality
25 Top-rated
26 — and Perrins (steak sauce)
28 Contractor's figure
29 Byron work
30 Univ. degrees
32 Miss Piggy's refusal
33 In a snit
35 Pollen spreader
36 In days gone by
38 Norwegian playwright
39 Kind of portrait
40 Small combo
41 Curved molding
42 Dowels
44 Garr of "Tootsie"
45 Masculine principle
47 Axiom
48 Muhammad —
50 Lawyer's thing

across »

1 Long-winded one
5 Plaintive cry
8 Apply gold leaf
12 DOS alternative
13 Bullfight yell
14 Drama award
15 A lot
16 Insult, slangily
17 Any Mrs.
18 Divvy up
20 Map detail
21 Soothed
24 Parking attendant
27 — Marie Saint
28 Float along
31 Sealed a deal
32 Once named
33 Met role
34 Drop — — line
35 — choy
36 Llama habitat
37 Naval officer
39 Boutique
43 Plunder
46 Syllogism word
47 Vegas lead-in
49 Once around the sun
51 Committed perjury
52 Frothy brew
53 Type of eagle
54 Opposing sides
55 End up ahead
56 Burrows

previous answer

R	O	P	E	■	A	G	A	R	■	G	O	B
A	H	E	M	■	K	I	L	O	■	E	R	A
G	O	A	P	E	■	V	A	C	A	N	C	Y
■	■	S	T	R	A	I	N	■	G	R	A	S
A	H	O	Y	■	R	N	■	T	O	E	■	■
Y	O	U	■	D	O	G	T	A	G	■	H	A
L	A	P	■	O	M	■	I	D	■	M	U	M
A	X	■	W	E	A	V	E	S	■	U	M	P
■	■	A	H	S	■	A	R	■	A	S	P	S
I	N	D	Y	■	E	N	S	U	E	S	■	■
F	E	A	S	T	E	D	■	T	R	I	E	D
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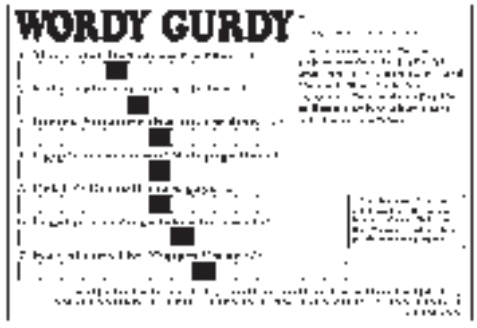

HOROSCOPE

ARIES | March 21-April 20
A reliable friend causes anxiety. Contact is made with those who care. All will be well in the end, if you do your share of work.

TAURUS | April 21-May 21
Fragments of the truth will disturb you. A field trip is fine way to spend time. A bad deal gets smoothed out the easy way.

GEMINI | May 22-June 21
Someone is caught being rude and self-centered. Refuse to take on disputes with others. Don't take anything personally.

CANCER | June 22-July 22
A tyrant insists on following protocol. Concentrate on going full-steam-ahead. Tell an amusing story to a decision maker.

LEO | July 23-Aug. 23
You have the ability to see the future. The best thing will happen, if you keep your eyes open. A raving showdown is exciting to watch.

VIRGO | Aug. 24-Sept. 22
Pushiness sets the tone for the day. A static situation is at an end. A head-trip can be avoided by going off alone.

LIBRA | Sep. 23-Oct. 23
A silent co-worker knows what happiness is. Someone's quiet rebellion is disturbing. Your expectations of others are too high.

SCORPIO | Oct. 24- Nov. 22
An accident leads to a passionate debate. Financial needs arise with urgency. Rage results from making a resolution.

SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 23- Dec. 21
A security concern is raised by a worker with money problems. A discovery leads to disbelief. Going away is an excellent option.

CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 20
An achiever must have a good time. You'll understand the meaning of loyalty. Let your heart and mind work together.

AQUARIUS | Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Good news will come your way. A woman comments on someone's dreams. Share your feelings with a trustworthy person.

PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20
A suggestion for therapy will wreak havoc. Learn from those who live with integrity. Make inquiries before responding. -AVATAR VENUS

	4	5	9		3			7
	9	8						1
2			4					
9	3				2			
	1	6				8	5	
			6				9	4
					9			5
6						2	1	
4			5		6	7	8	

instructions »

The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

solve time »

Under 13 minutes	Genius
13-17 minutes	Scholar
17-21	Smart
21-25	Pretty good
More than 25	Keep practising

previous answer

9	4	7	2	8	5	3	1	6
6	3	5	1	4	7	2	9	8
1	8	2	9	3	6	7	4	5
4	7	1	3	6	8	9	5	2
8	2	6	5	9	1	4	3	7
3	5	9	7	2	4	6	8	1
5	1	3	6	7	9	8	2	4
2	6	4	8	1	3	5	7	9
7	9	8	4	5	2	1	6	3

This Day IN HISTORY

May 21, 1851: Abolition of slavery in Colombia, South America.

May 21, 1881: The American Red Cross is established by Clara Barton.

May 21, 1917: Great Atlanta fire of 1917.

May 21, 1945: United States screen legend Humphrey Bogart marries actress Lauren Bacall.

May 21, 1972: Michelangelo's Pietà, in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, is damaged by a vandal.

Metro News Service

Vancouver weather

The Weather Network
theweathernetwork.com

Afternoon	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Partly cloudy. 16°	Variable. Low 9°	Sunny. 17°/ 9°	Mainly sunny. 19°/ 11°	Mainly sunny. 20°/ 13°

Temperature
Normals
High: 17.4°
Low: 8.7°

Records
High: 28.9°/1963
Low: 5°/1944

Sunrise: 5:21 a.m.
Sunset: 8:57 p.m.
Moonset: 5:46 a.m.
Moonrise: 11:20 p.m.

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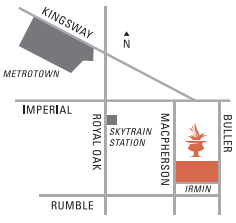

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